

17 December 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Cartography Division, OBGf

SUBJECT : Page-sized Provincial Maps for Communist China

1. China Division, OCI, request that consideration be given to the publication of page-sized provincial maps for Communist China. Much of the preparatory work for such a project has already been accomplished as a result of the decision to update the "Provisional Atlas" for Communist China published in 1959 (CIA/RR GR 59-20). We understand that the new administrative atlas should be complete by March 1969.

2. The atlas maps, although extremely useful as a research tool, measure 21 1/2 by 17 1/2 and are too large for use in OCI publications. However, the same maps, reduced to page size and simplified by the removal of certain data, would be very useful to this office. As a result of the lessening of central control during the Cultural Revolution, provincial affairs have been and are likely to remain of keen interest to the intelligence community. Up-to-date provincial maps would provide a handy reference aid for the summary of provincial affairs published from time to time in the China Political Monthly series and also for any special memoranda prepared by this office.

3. The Handbook entitled "South Vietnam: Provincial Maps," published by OBGf in September 1967 is a good example of the format we would like to see for a similar series of provincial maps for Communist China.


Chief, China Division, OCI

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